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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/425,788 | 10/22/1999 | E. NOEL ABARRA | 0941.63365 | 1025 |

7590 05/23/2003

PATRICK G BURNS-ESQ
GREER BURNS & CRAIN LTD
300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE
SUITE 2500
CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

RICKMAN, HOLLY C

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1773

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2003

32

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner for Patents

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Holly Rickman whose telephone number is (703) 305-2642. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Thibodeau can be reached on (703) 308-2367. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

hcr
May 21, 2003

Holly Rickman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1773